

In the claims

1. (currently amended): A cable system comprising a major trunk and a plurality of feeder lines, each of said feeder lines being connected between a node and a feeder line end, each of said feeder lines including a plurality of taps and a two-way communication device connected to each of said taps, each of said feeder lines including bi-directional amplifiers for passing signals in a high frequency band forward from a cable headend to said two-way communication devices and for passing “return” signals in a low frequency band to said headend, said two way communication devices being configured to both receive and transmit in said high frequency band, each of said feeder line ends including a receiver for receiving transmissions in said high frequency band and a means for converting signals in said high frequency band to signals in said low frequency band and applying to the corresponding one of said feeder lines the signals in the low frequency band to the corresponding feeder line end., wherein the connection between each of said two-way communication device and said feeder line also includes a high pass filter.

6. (currently amended): A cable system as in claim 4 claim 1 wherein at least one of said feeder lines includes an auxiliary feeder line, said auxiliary feeder line including a band stop filter.

8. (currently amended): A cable system as in claim 4 claim 1 wherein said two-way communication devices include set-top boxes.

Cancel claims 4, and 42-50.

Claims 18-20, 26, 33-37 and 51 and 52 were previously canceled by applicant’s amendment filed 19 July 2004.